

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021-22

OVERVIEW OF PARISH FINANCES

1. The last year has seen a slow return of parishioners to church as the risk from Covid infection decreased. The consequences are apparent by the reduced income from the Offertory Plate
2. The Financial Statement includes the last two years figures to help show typical amounts, and also to see the overall impact of Covid-19 to our finances.
3. A parish appeal was made in March to ask parishioners to think about what they give, and to increase the amount if they are in a position to do so. Also to consider making a regular Standing Order along with a Gift Aid Declaration if a UK tax payer. Gift Aid Declarations and Standing Orders are vital to the well being of the church as was seen during the 'pandemic lockdown'.

PARISH INCOME FOR THE YEAR

General Income

1. **The Offertory plate/envelope income** is slightly up on last year but is £13K less than the pre pandemic figures.
2. **The Standing Orders** are higher than pre pandemic and they do provide a more regular income. Parishioners are encouraged to consider making a regular Standing Order for their Offertory rather than use the plate, and to Gift Aid it if possible.
3. **Gift Aid.** We have received £9,406 back in Gift Aid claims from SOs and money in the Offertory Plate.

Income from church activities

1. Votive candles provide a regular small income throughout the year.
2. Fr Ken is now retired but lives in the presbytery and is required to pay rent to the parish.

PARISH EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR

1. **Liturgical costs** are higher this financial year. Fr Roy has purchased chasubles and altar items.
2. **Housekeeping** These costs are now minimal with Fr Roy not occupying the presbytery
3. **Utility costs** include heating, lighting, council tax, water rates, health and safety inspections and maintenance of safety equipment. Also, all gardening costs. These were less than the pre Covid year because Fr Ken pays the costs associated with the presbytery.
4. **The salary** of the secretary is now shared between the two parishes.
5. **Property and associated costs** are still low as only essential maintenance was carried out during the year.

EXPLANATION OF DIOCESAN CHARGES

The Diocesan Fund supports the running of the Diocese – ie Bishop's House, the Admin, Finance Departments, employed staff at Bishop's House, NORES, NYMO etc. These charges are a percentage of our general income and were 23% and will rise over the next 3 years to 40%
There is also property and liability Insurance, and the priests' pension fund.

THE FUTURE: St Aidan's has been fortunate in that it has seen an increase in its account in spite of the slow return of parishioners. We are still in a comfortable position financially and not at risk of being in debt.

The Diocese is in debt and has increased its charges by £10,000 to the parish. This along with the substantial rise in utility costs will have a big impact on parish finances. We need to find a way to encourage those parishioners we have not seen since the pandemic to return to church.

FINALLY I would like to thank all who help with this parish ministry; we are very grateful for your support.

Sue Finch
June 2022